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Trump to Calvo: H-2B crisis will be resolved

Mindy Aguon | The Guam Daily Post Nov 4, 2017 Updated 9 hrs ago



Governor Eddie Baza Calvo has a discussion with President Donald Trump in Hawaii on Nov. 3, 2017. Photo courtesy of the Office of the Governor.

President Donald Trump assured Guam Governor Eddie Baza Calvo that the island's H-2B crisis will be resolved.

During an event hosted by the U.S. Pacific Command, Calvo spoke directly with President Trump

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about the H-2B issues on Guam.

"I have been working diligently to resolve the H-2B issue on Guam, and tonight, I had a chance to address my concerns to the President and he assured me that it will be resolved," said Governor Calvo in a press release.

Over the last year, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has been denying applications for H-2B workers. Local contractors filed suit against the federal government over the denials.

The governor said the denials of H-2B visas has negatively impacted the island's economy. Construction projects have been delayed due to a lack of a skilled workforce to meet the demands of ongoing and future projects including those for the Marine buildup and relocation from Okinawa to Guam.

"I also had a chance to meet with President Trump's Chief of Staff, John Kelly, and we will be working together as an order by the President to move forward in finally resolving the H2B crisis," Calvo added.

District Court Magistrate Judge Joaquin Manibusan Jr. recommended to dismiss the lawsuit filed by one dozen local contractors and businesses against USCIS. The parties, in a filing last Friday, asked the court to hold a hearing on the federal government's motion to dismiss and the plaintiffs' objections to the magistrate's report and recommendation in January or March of next year.

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